

Question Responses and Small-Table Discussion Summary

Attendance - 7 people (plus 4 Committee members and 3 staff)

Identifying long-term investment spending priorities; Determining how best for Wichita to grow over the next 20 years -

QUESTION: Prioritize future City spending within the following three general categories of infrastructure investment (Priority #1, #2, #3) (7 complete responses)

<u>Spending Priority</u>	<u>Categories of Investment</u>		
57% #1	43% #2	0% #3	Maintaining and replacing what the city currently has
29% #1	57% #2	14% #3	Making enhancements to what the city currently has
14% #1	0% #2	86% #3	Expanding the city's current system of public assets

QUESTION: Check future City spending priorities within each of the following types of infrastructure projects (7 complete responses)

Maintaining and replacing what the city currently has:	<u>Spending Priority</u>		
	Low	Med.	High
<i>Repairing and maintaining existing local streets</i>	0	2	5
<i>Replacing and maintaining aging water & sewer lines</i>	0	1	6
<i>Maintaining existing parks and recreation centers</i>	0	4	3
<i>Maintaining existing cultural arts and entertainment facilities</i>	1	3	3
<i>Maintaining existing libraries</i>	1	1	5
<i>Maintaining existing transit system</i>	2	0	5
<i>Maintaining existing fire and police facilities</i>	0	2	5

Expanding the city's current system of public assets:	<u>Spending Priority</u>		
	Low	Med.	High
<i>Constructing the NW Bypass (Goddard to Maize)</i>	5	2	0
<i>Adding new streets</i>	4	2	1
<i>Adding new water & sewer lines</i>	2	2	3
<i>Adding sewer treatment plant capacity</i>	1	3	3
<i>Adding new parks</i>	4	2	1
<i>Adding new fire stations and upgrading police facilities</i>	2	2	3

Making enhancements to what the city currently has:	<u>Spending Priority</u>		
	Low	Med.	High
<i>Kellogg freeway improvements to Goddard and Butler County</i>	4	2	1
<i>Constructing South Area Parkway Bypass (around south Wichita)</i>	4	2	1
<i>Securing long-term water supply</i>	0	0	7
<i>Upgrading existing parks</i>	1	4	3
<i>Upgrading existing cultural arts & entertainment facilities</i>	1	5	1
<i>Upgrading existing libraries</i>	2	3	2
<i>Major transit system/service improvements (Transit Vision 2013)</i>	2	1	4

DISCUSSION: *What projects and investments are most critical to Wichita's future?*

- Projects and investments that are not focused on expanding the City's current system of infrastructure and facility assets
- Securing a long-term water supply is critical to the City's future growth and development
- Projects and investments that maintain what we currently have should be highest in priority
- Future investments should be reducing our travel times and our consumption of energy
- Investments in community quality of life facilities/infrastructure is needed to for our City to compete with other communities regionally and nationally

QUESTION: *Recognizing that growth in all areas of Wichita is necessary for enhancing the quality of life in our community, rank the following three Wichita growth areas according to which you think **best** supports the future growth, prosperity and quality of life of our community (1=best, 2=second best, 3=third best) (7 complete responses)*

Rank

1	Downtown	43% best	14% 2 nd best	43% 3 rd best
2	Established Urban Core	29% best	71% 2 nd best	0% 3 rd best
3	Suburbs	29% best	14% 2 nd best	57% 3 rd best

% of Respondents Currently Living in:

Suburbs	57%
Established Urban Core	29%
Downtown	14%
Other	0%

DISCUSSION: *How best should Wichita grow over the next 20 years?*

- Need to consider long-term cost-effectiveness of investment decisions – sometimes it may be better to replace or build new rather than to continue to maintain an existing asset
- Infill and redevelopment within areas served by existing infrastructure makes best use of our existing assets
- New development within all three geographic areas (downtown, established urban core and suburbs) is essential for the future growth of our City
- Future generations will want to live in areas of reduced travel time to their place of work and entertainment
- It is the downtown that makes a community unique and attractive - people look to downtown for cultural amenities no matter where they live within the city
- Investment in downtown is an economic driver for our community and also capitalizes on the city's existing infrastructure. Continued growth and redevelopment in downtown is critical to Wichita's future

Creating an effective infrastructure investment decision-making process for the long-term -

DISCUSSION: *What would you want an elected official to consider when making decisions about investing in new capital projects, modifying existing projects, or eliminating existing capital projects?*

- The items in the suggested list provided are intertwined and interrelated – more clarity needed
- Determine why we are spending money in the first place. Will the City be a 'player' at the local, regional or national level? Future investment decisions come down to long-term vision and priorities - priorities will then drive projects
- The real issue is how do you define the "win" for our city? The "win" is what we want to be, and that should determine our investment decisions and priorities. The problem is that the 'win' is different for different people. The challenge is for the community to define and invest in those elements of the City that will create the 'future place where we want to live, work and play.'
- Important to find 'balance' in future investments, and also be flexible/adaptable as circumstances dictate and change occurs
- Pay attention to the process of informing/engaging the community and how you make decisions
- Determine what the down sides are of investing in a project

Establishing important infrastructure investment decision-making criteria and considerations -

QUESTION: Listed below are important criteria and considerations to guide future community infrastructure investment spending and cost-reduction decisions. Please check the two (2) **most** important and the two (2) **least** important. (5 complete responses)

Importance		<u>Decision-making criteria & considerations</u>
<u>Least</u>	<u>Most</u>	
0	2	Promotes economic growth and job creation
1	5	Advances our community quality of life
0	0	Advances community health and safety
1	2	Creates a place where future generations will want to live, work and play
5	0	Priority as identified in existing adopted plans (e.g. the city/county comprehensive plan)
3	1	Essential for the future physical growth and development of our community
2	2	Demonstrated ability and commitment to maintain the project

DISCUSSION: What are the most important decision-making criteria?

- Advancing our community quality of life is necessary in order to promote economic growth, job creation and attracting new people to our City. Koch Industries has hundreds of well-paying jobs here in Wichita that they can't fill.
- Economic growth and job creation is critical to our City's future growth
- Need to be flexible to seize opportunities and make good investments – can't be locked into priorities identified in existing plans ... things change
- The community needs to be committed to its future vision and strong political leadership is needed to get it done - otherwise it won't happen (also need the trust of the public)

Any other things or issues needing to be addressed or considered in the Community Investments Plan? -

DISCUSSION:

- None